



# THE DAILY SCOOP

"All the news that's fit to pant"



*Torrey Highlands Dog Park*

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## Questions or Ideas?

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If you have an article or picture you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please free to do so.

## We are on the web!

[Www.friendsofcvdogs.com](http://www.friendsofcvdogs.com)

AND

[http://genesis.sannet.gov/infospc/templates/cd1/cv\\_dog\\_park.jsp](http://genesis.sannet.gov/infospc/templates/cd1/cv_dog_park.jsp)

## News from Councilman Peter's Office

**Nikki Shakhshir (Joe)**

**T**here is no word out yet about when the dog park will "officially" become a permanent fixture in Carmel Valley. However, it seems as though we have strong support from our community and Councilman Peters office, and the trial period will be extended another year.

Dave McIntyre has been in contact with the Councilman's office. Mr. Peters states, "Torrey Highlands Dog Park has been such a huge success. I know for many dog owners, the creation of an off leash area in Carmel Valley enhanced their quality of life. It took a lot of hard work to find an appropriate location, but it has been

definitely worth the effort. I am committed to maintain this Park permanently for the dog owners of Carmel Valley."

"I should also note that in order to relieve the busy Torrey Highlands Dog Park I worked with the Vons developer in the Torrey Hills community to have them build and maintain a one acre fenced dog park behind their proposed facility for dog owners to enjoy. This will give dog owners another option to enjoy the outdoors legally."

Thanks to Dave for communicating with the Councilman's office.

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## Avoiding "Separation Anxiety" In Dogs

**Patrick Melese, DVM, MA, DACVB**

**D**ogs are social animals and many do not appreciate being left "home alone." Some of these dogs will express their anxiety when the owner is gone by various means including:

- Destroying property often in attempts to get in or out of the house or escape from where they are confined.
- Distress vocalization including barking or howling when owners are gone.
- Soiling the house.
- Refusing to eat or play with toys.
- Various other signs of anxiety such as digging holes, hypersalivating or causing self-inflicted wounds..

Even dogs left with other dogs may exhibit these signs if the primary attachment is to people. This condition can be very intense with the dog being in a state of panic.



Missy with her toy. It's filled with her favorite treat, shredded wheat. As she rolls it around, the treats fall out one at a time, occupying her for at least 10 minutes. She loves it!

Dogs which may be at increased risk for Separation Anxiety include dogs adopted very early (before 8 weeks), or late (after 16 wks of age), dogs which have been through several homes, and dogs with other anxiety-related behavior problems (such as noise phobia below). An owner who stays home for a prolonged pe

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## Dog Park Space Mirror Project

William J Bray, Physicist (Keats)

The space mirror dates back to Hermann Oberth, the great mathematician and physicist, who in the early 1920s published *Ways and Means to Space Navigation*. In the 1960s, both NASA and the Department of Defense contracted aerospace firms to study the feasibility of space mirrors and whether they were capable of providing extra light to nighttime military operations. Although NASA dropped its plans to develop a space mirror, Russia's space program continued research into the technology. Their mirror (named Znamya or "banner") has been portrayed in a more peaceful light: providing assistance in global crop management, illuminating areas where natural disasters have occurred, as well as supplying solar "sails" to space missions. (adapted from <http://www.retrofuture.com/weather.html>)

The Russian experiment "Znamya 2.5" is a 25 meter (83 ft) circular mylar reflector. After leaving Mir, an expended Progress cargo vehicle will be commanded to spin the mirror out to its full size where it will be used to illuminate pre-selected areas on Earth with reflected sunlight. The beam will illuminate an area about 5-7km (3-4 miles) in diameter to about ten times the light of the full moon, around that of a dim street lamp.

The cheapest payload to orbit is about \$20K, if one can keep the weight under 100lb. A Space Mirror is essentially a mylar foil attached to a gyroscope (solar powered) for aiming the rig. The estimated cost for a generic Space Mirror could be kept under \$50K from design to orbit. This is, in fact, less than the anticipated cost for installing night lighting at Torrey Pines Dog Park. With these cost issues in mind, not to mention the cost of electric power, the obvious choice is to have

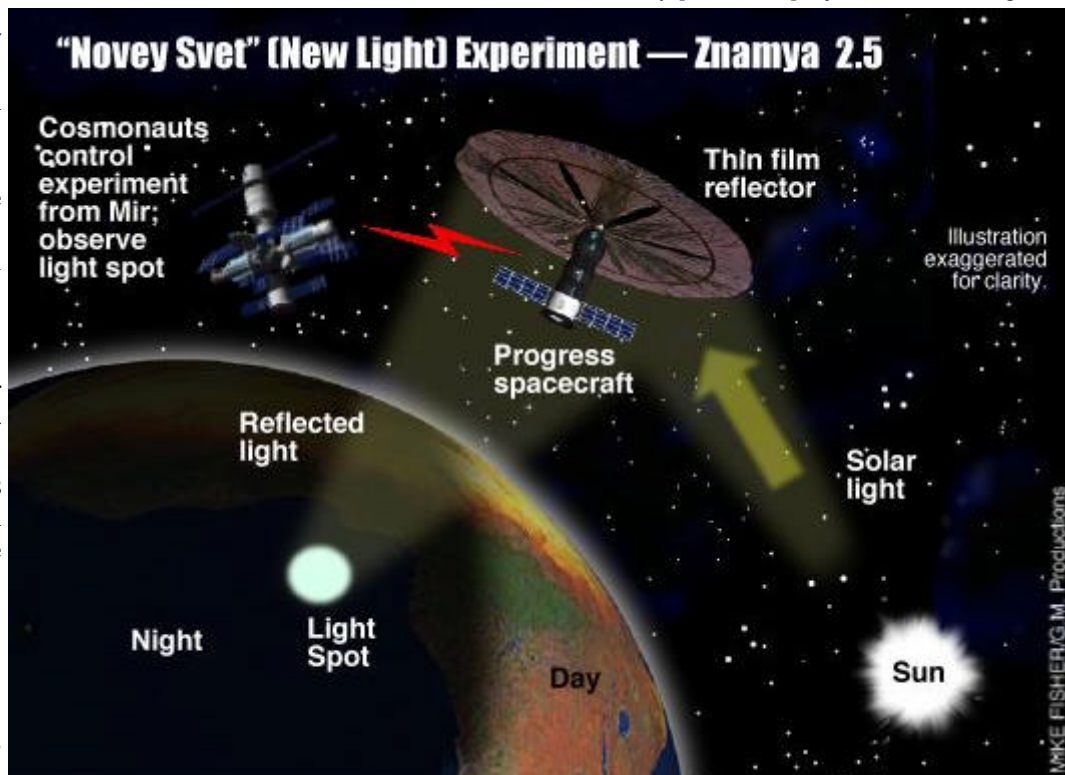
the world's first Dog Park with winter extended night lighting provided via a geostationary Space Mirror.

Further analysis reveals that the Dog Park Space Mirror, aside from being a cheaper approach than standard night flood lighting (such as in the neighboring football field), could be a vastly profitable project as well. Neighboring townships

should be willing to pay a fee for having the Space Mirror illuminate 2 to 5 mile cross sections from space. Long term leasing of the satellite's night lighting capability could pay for the project in the first year of operation.

Our proposal to proceed with this project

is justified on the basis that it makes perfect sense, consumes no electricity, and could turn a profit in a single calendar year. The profits could be used to provide the planned AstroTurf play surface and poop bags in abundance.



William Bray the physicist, and Keats, the dog.



## Digital Doolittle

By Benjamin Fulford

This August American dog owners will finally get their hands on the gadget that's made the Japanese sit up and beg: Takara's canine-to-human translator. Since September the eccentric Japanese toy company has sold 300,000 *Bowlinguals*, a collar-worn dog radio that converts barks and growls into 200 phrases and pictures through a handheld monitor.

Takara had animal behaviorists and acoustics researchers parse 2,000 woofs from 80 breeds to identify when a dog is happy, sad, frustrated, needy or angry. The receiver also lets you know what different wags and ear angles mean. (A fake bark from a reporter produced a picture of a needy dog face with "let's play" written below it.) The device also provides daily graphs of a pooch's emotional highs and lows, on an emotion scale ranging from 0 to 100.

The \$100 *Bowlingual* has been a hit in gadget-crazed Japan, which has 12 million dogs and a good number of underemployed dog owners with a too much time on their hands. In the U.S., with a dog population of 67 million, Takara hopes to sell 1 million units between August and March 2004.

A secret Takara laboratory is now working on decoding the secret language of birds, cats, fish and plants by using sensors to equate movement and temperature changes to emotional or physiological fluctuations. Presumably we will soon know whether plants really like classical music.

*Preprinted from Forbes, April 14, 2003, p. 64.*

## Separation Anxiety (cont.)

*(Continued from page 1)*

riod (e.g. new baby, summer break, in between jobs, etc.), then suddenly leaves the dog to go back to work without an adjustment period can "set off" a separation anxiety problem in a susceptible dog.

Several steps can be taken to avoid this problem including:

- Act very matter-of-fact and "low key" when either leaving or returning to your dog even though your dog may exaggerate greetings and act very concerned about departures.
- Just before leaving, offer your pet an extra-special, long-lasting chew toy such as a special butcher knuckle bone, a favorite toy (such as a Kong® toy stuffed with favorite treats, peanut butter, etc.), or any other attractive "departure cue", which is *taken away immediately when you return* and only available when the dog is left alone.
- Teach the pet early on about the benefits of "safe" departures by training the puppy to stay alone for very short periods, then longer and longer periods of time when it is first taught to be left alone.
- Do not punish the dog for anything that was done prior to your return; this only makes the problem worse as the dog now also anticipates and "dreads" the owner's return while at the same time being intensely anxious.
- Teach your dog to sit or down and stay when people are home so that your pet can tolerate some independence from humans.
- Identify and quickly seek help for any noise phobia which the dog may have since a combination of anxieties and phobia makes the problem dramatically worse. If the phobia is only seen at specific times (such as the 4th of July) ask your family veterinarian for a tranquilizer, which can be given well before anticipated noises to help the dog cope with these times.

- Try leaving on a radio or TV to a soothing channel to act as "white noise" and a "cue" for separations with minimal anxiety.
- **Never lock a dog with Separation Anxiety in a crate** and leave it alone any longer than you have trained him/her to feel safe there. This can intensely worsen the problem in dogs with a phobia to confinement (dog may destroy the crate and severely injure itself) and make the problem that much harder to solve.

If your dog is not improving or seems to be getting worse, speak to your family veterinarian. They may refer you to a board-certified veterinary specialist for help with this problem. These days we have excellent methods and FDA approved medication (if indicated) to help most owners and dogs through even the most intense cases.

*Dr. Patrick Melese is a veterinarian, a **board-certified specialist** in animal behavior problems and has been treating behavior cases in San Diego for the past 15 years. He is the only Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists based in Southern California. Dr. Melese practices at the Animal Specialty Group facility in Kearny Mesa. To make an appointment, you can call his practice, Veterinary Behavior Consultants, at **858-259-6115**.*



"The key to dealing with separation anxiety is to be smart. Learn how to buckle-up, be ready to go on a moments notice, and look great in the process" says Missy.

## K9 Rider Falls in Love at Torrey Pines Dog Park

By Chief da Kahuna (with assistance from Bobby Challenger & Donna Gayle Thomas)

**N**ow that I was getting old enough to go to school, my family started doing some research into obedience training schools in my area. It was then that they discovered the Torrey Pines Doggy Park. Our discovery was unfortunately a day late, however. I'd been working out and playing in the field by my house having a pretty good time with some of my friends. On this last day while I was exploring and sniffing around, I snuffed a cottontail up my nose. Did it ever hurt! I rubbed my nose and sneezed to try to dislodge it. But nothing doing. Once I started sneezing, I couldn't stop. My family became very worried that it might be a cottontail and called my doctor immediately. My doctor recommended we come in for a look-see.

The doctor and two assistants tried to hold me down to remove the cottontail bur, but that just wasn't working. Sure enough, he was soon recommending they put me to sleep. This was definitely a first for me! They inserted an IV feed to my left front leg that put me totally out in very short order. While I wasn't pleased with the whole ordeal, I was feeling so much better afterward. And, sure enough, they removed a cottontail bur in my nose that they saved in a bottle for us. This little morning workout and visit to the doctor would end up costing my family \$532. And, according to the doctor, this could happen again and again if I continued to play in dirt fields with weeds and those dreaded "cottontails". What did I know about money though; all I knew was that my nose felt better and I would soon be able to go out and play again with my friends. After all, I am still just a 7 month old pup.

Finally, Dad told Mom he was going to take me over to the new park. It was early morning, and no other dogs were there. It was such a nice park—fenced, doggy drinking fountain, lots of grass, and no cottontails. WOW! This was the life; but where were all the other dogs?

The second morning was a Sunday; I remember it like yesterday. My Dad and I went to the park and, once again, no one was there. I wondered why with such a bitchen place to play, other dogs wouldn't want to come there and play doggy games. I wanted to play with other dogs like the other place, but without burs. Dad and I walked the place and found a lot of doggy dung. No bags.

Finally someone showed. As it turned out it was one of Dad's old childhood friends.

I happened to be hanging out at the coolest doggy drinking fountain doing my thing. This dude pulls up in his big SUV and starts walking towards the gate of the park. He was carrying some small boxes. Come to find out, the small boxes are doggy clean up bags.

As he started our way, I heard my Dad say "Dave McIntyre, we've finally found you and we're going to get your family for all your bad deeds." Dave crouched down and started looking closely, wondering "who the heck is this person and do I know him?"

Dad said it was great to see Dave after so many years and, as a result of the park, we now see him often.

I want to thank all the doggy people and supporters for your efforts in getting the City of San Diego to reserve this Park for us. Bless all your hearts with my doggy love.

*To be continued . . .*

Mahalo  
Chief Da Kahuna  
K9 Reporter



Chief, cooling off at the watering hole

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*I was born September 20, 2003 on a horse and dog breeding ranch. My Pop (or Sire, as they say in human parlance,) Royal Dancer, comes from a high bred line of Show and Field Champion Labradors. Eight are in the Hall Of Fame for Dogs. But for me, Chief, being a happy puppy dog and playing doggy games is plenty. I love to watch myself in the mirror and play with my twin doggy pal Surf Da Kahuna. I love popcorn, walks and sleeping for hours after a good romp and play.*

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## News (cont.)

*(Continued from page 1)*

On a lighter note, funds are needed for poop bags. If you have contributed to the poop bag fund, thank you very much. If you haven't, please contact Jim Adams or Dave McIntyre to help cover the cost of keeping our dog park cleaned-up. Contact Jim at [adamswest@earthlink.net](mailto:adamswest@earthlink.net) or Dave at [sk8surf@san.rr.com](mailto:sk8surf@san.rr.com).

Please help spread the word about our newsletter. We maintain a database of those who want to receive our newsletter and now email it to over 200 people. You can contact me or Jim to get on the emailing list. We send out a newsletter about every 3 months.

Visit the Council District One web site at <http://genesis.sannet.gov/infospc/templates/cd1/index.jsp>

## Doggie websites and more

By Jim Adams (Missy)

- <http://dogs.about.com/> Click on "A to Z Dog Information"
- <http://www.workingdogs.com/>
- <http://www.k9web.com/dog-faqs/>
- <http://altvetmed.com/>
- <http://www.dog.com/>
- <http://www.canismajor.com/dog/tbehav.html>
- <http://www.akc.org/>
- <http://www.hsus.org/ace/352> (Humane Society of the US) Seasonal information for your pets and pests.
- <http://www.dogpatch.org/dogs/> Information on all types of dog shows.
- <http://www.asPCA.org> Gives information about poison control and your pet.



"Yappy hour"



The afternoon crowd, a.k.a. the margarita crowd



Charger playing with a buddy

*To err is human -  
to forgive, canine."* -  
**Anonymous**



Bran, a dog park veteran, looking for a cool spot.



This is as close to doggy dancing as it gets! Or perhaps it was the margaritas on Friday afternoon.



Joe talking (barking) to Morgan



Morgan with a smile